

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00332 010345Z

21

ACTION EA-10

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 NIC-01 /058 W

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R 010330Z MAR 75

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3291

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 0332

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH US

SUBJECT: LIN PING COMMENTS ON U.S. - PRC RELATIONS

1. ON FEBRUARY 28 I HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR AMERICAS AND OCEANIAN DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR LIN PING AND THREE OF HIS STAFF MEMBERS, TING YUANG-HUNG, CHAO CHI-HUA AND CHAO CHIA. HOLDRIDGE, ANDERSON AND PASCOE WERE ALSO PRESENT. ATMOSPHERE WAS QUITE RELAXED AND LIN LOSENEED UP A BIT FROM HIS USUAL UNCOMMUNICATIVE STYLE. ASKED ABOUT THE MANSFIELD REPORT, LIN SAID HE AGREED WITH VIEWS PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED BY VICE MINISTER WANG HAI-JUNG THAT THE REPORT WAS WELL DONE AND OBJECTIVE. HAVING ACCOMPANIED THE SENATOR ON HIS TRIP THROUGHOUT CHINA, LIN OFFERED THE OBSERVATION THAT MANSFIELD WORKED VERY HARD, TOOK A SERIOUS ATTITUDE, AND SINCERELY TRIED TO IMPROVE THE FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

2. LATER DURING LUNCH, THE SUBJECT OF THIS YEAR'S DIPLOMATIC TOUR TO KUNMING CAME UP, AND LIN JOKINGLY SAID THAT IF I COULD ARRANGE FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS TO BE ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE PRC AND THE U.S. BY NEXT WEEK HE WOULD SEE TO IT THAT WE WERE INCLUDED ON THE FIRST GROUP

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PAGE 02 PEKING 00332 010345Z

TO GO ON MARCH 4. HE WENT OUT OF HIS WAY TO APOLOGIZE

FOR THE FACT THAT WE ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR AND SAID
HE HOPED WE UNDERSTOOD. I SAID WE DID.

3. I MENTIONED TO LIN THAT WHILE WE REALIZED HIS WIDE
RANGE OF RESPONSIBILITIES KEPT HIM VERY BUSY AND I DID
NOT WANT TO IMPOSE ON HIS TIME, I FELT THAT IT WOULD BE
USEFUL TO HAVE MORE FREQUENT EXCHANGES ON A WIDER RANGE OF
INTERNATIONAL ISSUES. LIN RESPONDED VERY POSITIVELY AND
AGREED THAT MORE FREQUENT CONVERSATIONS WOULD BE DESIRABLE.
WHEN I MENTIONED THE SITUATION ON THE SUBCONTINENT AS AN
EXAMPLE OF A POSSIBLE TOPIC FOR DISCUSSION, LIN PROMPTLY
REPLIED THAT OUR RESUMPTION OF ARMS SALES TO PAKISTAN WAS
WELCOME AND OVERDUE.

4. RUMORS OF POSSIBLE EARTHQUAKE IN PEKING AREA CAME UP,
AND LIN DISPLAYED CONSIDERABLE KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT. HE
REASSURED US THAT CHINESE EARTHQUAKE PREDICTING CAPABILITIES
WERE GOOD, AND NOTED THAT A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE SUCCESS WAS
"RELIANCE ON THE MASSES", I.E. COLLECTING REPORTS OF UNUSUAL
NATURAL PHENOMENA FROM PEASANTS AND WORKERS IN THE
COUNTRYSIDE. HE SAID THAT EARTHQUAKES IN THIS AREA RARELY
EXCEED FOUR OR FIVE ON THE RICHTER SCALE AND THAT NEW
HOUSING CONSTRUCTED IN PEKING IS BUILT TO WITHSTAND A
MUCH LARGER SHOCK.

5. DURING LUNCHEON WE ALSO RAISED SCHEDULING PROBLEMS OF
TRACK AND FIELD TEAM AND WORLD AFFAIRS ORGANIZATIONS VISITS
WHICH WILL BE HANDLED SEPTEL.
BUSH

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